

Elaine S. LeVine, Ph.D., ABMP
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1395 Missouri Avenue
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EXHIBIT 3
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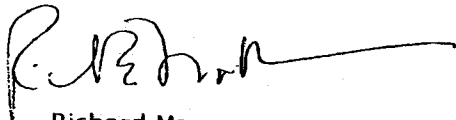
Dear Dr. LeVine:

When I was referred to you for psychotherapy right after my family's horrific tragedy, what I expected the usual psychological therapy to help me get through my depression and grief. I was pleasantly surprised, however, to learn that you are a prescribing psychologist and therefore qualified to prescribe and monitor psychoactive medicines whilst simultaneously providing what is usually referred to as "talk therapy."

This has worked out marvelously for me. Not only have you been extremely careful in prescribing medicines, always making sure that I understand what they do and what kinds of side-effects they may have, you have masterfully coupled this will the kind of listening and analysis no one I know who only sees a psychiatrist receives. You have a very empathic and gentle manner and have demonstrated a genuine interest in me as a human being, and for this I am extremely grateful.

I say this as one with extensive experience with NAMI (past president of NAMI-DAC, past board member of NAMI New Mexico, and instructor in NAMI's "Family-to-Family" course for those who have loved ones with a diagnosed mental illness). Before being referred to you, I had heard a lot of chatter about how it was a mistake to certify psychologists - even with the extensive training and mentoring such certification requires - as prescribing psychologists. The reasons varied: they were trying to horn in on the work of psychiatrists, they weren't medical doctors and therefore not qualified to prescribe, and were guilty of old and discredited notions such as the "schizophrenogenic mother (an idea generated not by psychologists but by Theodore Lidz, an early 20th Century psychiatrist with a bias against the biological model of mental illness). And while I personally supported the idea of prescribing psychologists as a creative and sensible idea, given the paucity of mental health providers in our very poor part of the country, my support was intellectual, not experiential. Now, with the experience I've had with you as a prescribing psychologist, I can attest first hand to its importance as an important part of the provider network for those suffering from mental illness.

Thank you for your kind, understanding, and highly professional help in what have been very dark days in my life.



Richard Magee
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